



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

April 13, 2001

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Patrick Farley
2550 University Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55114

RE: MUR 5188

Dear Mr. Farley:

On March 27, 2001, the Federal Election Commission (the "Commission") found reason to believe that you violated 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(1)(A), which is a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, by making excessive contributions to Newinski for Congress. However, after considering the circumstances of this matter, the Commission determined to take no further action and closed its file as it pertains to you. The Factual and Legal Analysis, which formed a basis for the Commission's finding, is attached for your information.

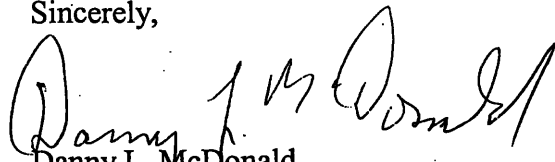
The Commission reminds you that making excessive contributions is a violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(1)(A). You should take steps to ensure that this activity does not occur in the future.

The file will be made public within 30 days after this matter has been closed with respect to all other respondents involved. You are advised that the confidentiality provisions of 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12) remain in effect with respect to all respondents still involved in this matter.

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If you have any questions, please contact Delbert K. Rigsby, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,


Danny L. McDonald
Chairman

Enclosure
Factual and Legal Analysis

21.04.405.1200

**FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

MUR: 5188

RESPONDENT: Patrick Farley

This matter was generated based on information obtained by the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. *See* 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2).

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("Act"), provides that no person may make contributions to any candidate and his or her committees, which in the aggregate, exceed \$1,000 per Federal election. 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(1)(A); 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(b)(1).

Patrick Farley made contributions to Newinski for Congress (the "Committee") for the primary election in the amount of \$200 on February 21, 1997, \$500 on June 23, 1997, \$500 on December 1, 1997 and \$1,000 on June 19, 1998. The contributions, which total \$2,200, exceeded the individual contribution limitation by \$1,200. *See id.*

Therefore, there is reason to believe that Patrick Farley violated 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(1)(A) by making contributions to the Committee in excess of the individual contribution limitation.

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